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3

- In 1732, Parliament forbade the manufacture of woolen goods between the colonies.
- In 1733, Britain passed the “**Molasses Act**” imposing a duty on sugar, molasses, or rum imported from any foreign source – in order to require the colonies to trade only with the British West India Company.
- In 1750, Parliament ordered the closing of all iron works in the colonies.
- In 1765, **The Stamp Act** was passed – charging a tax on all paper, vellum and parchment and required that all “legal” or “business” writings be executed on “stamped” paper, otherwise they would be declared null and void.
- To enforce the Stamp Act, the “**Quartering Act**” was passed, requiring the colonists to provide room and board for British Soldiers in the colonies sent over to enforce these unpopular and illegal laws.

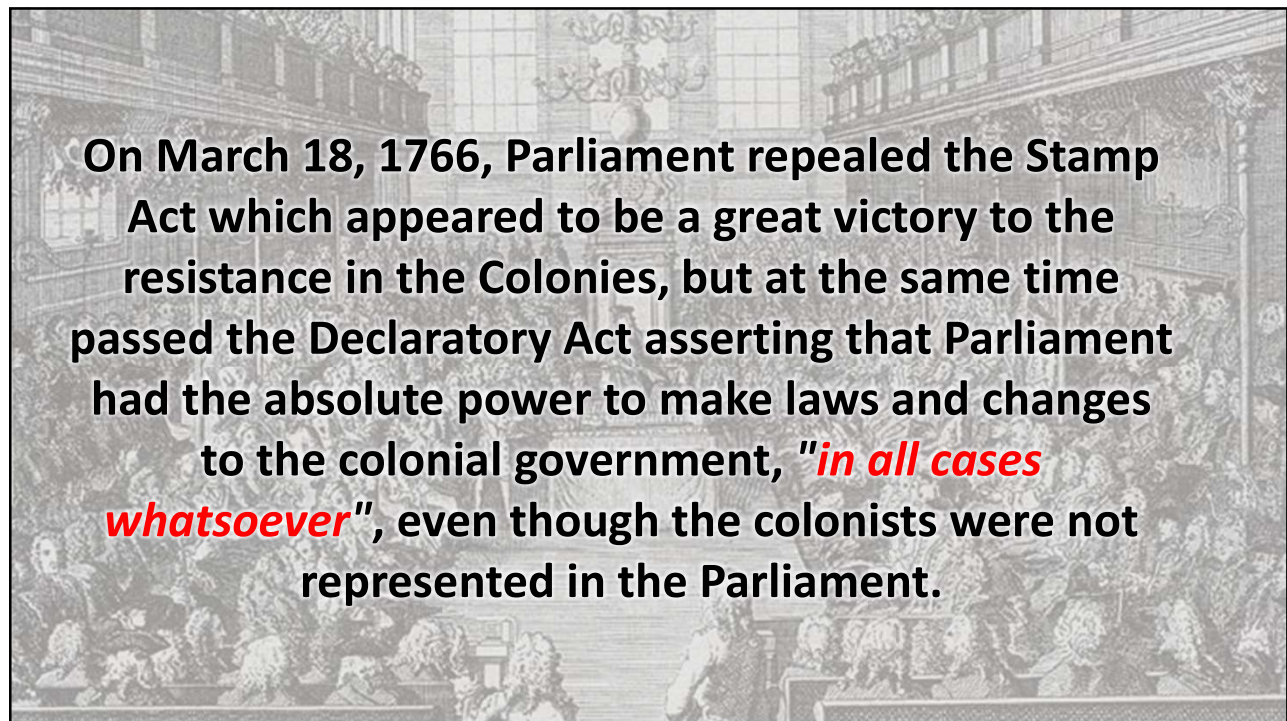
**All of these actions were clearly illegal according to English Law as contained in the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights.**

4





5



On March 18, 1766, Parliament repealed the Stamp Act which appeared to be a great victory to the resistance in the Colonies, but at the same time passed the Declaratory Act asserting that Parliament had the absolute power to make laws and changes to the colonial government, "***in all cases whatsoever***", even though the colonists were not represented in the Parliament.

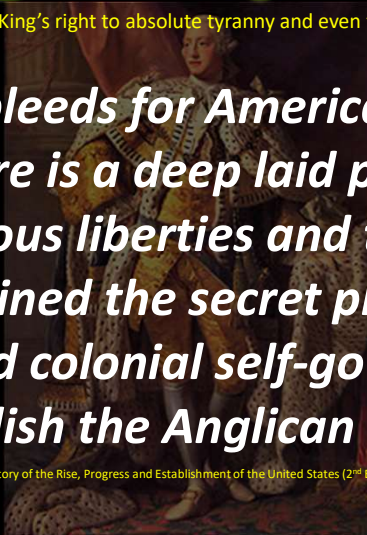
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## England's Acts of Tyranny **Religious Liberty** Violated

The Declaratory Act – a declaration of the King's right to absolute tyranny and even the establishment of the Church of England.

***“My heart bleeds for America. O poor New England! There is a deep laid plot against your civil and religious liberties and they will be lost.’ Whitefield outlined the secret plans of the British Ministry to end colonial self-government and to establish the Anglican Church”***

(1764) (William Gordon, The History of the Rise, Progress and Establishment of the United States (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed, 3 vols. New York Samuel Campbell, 1794)



7



CHARLES TOWNSHEND  
A mezzotint after a portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds  
National Portrait Gallery

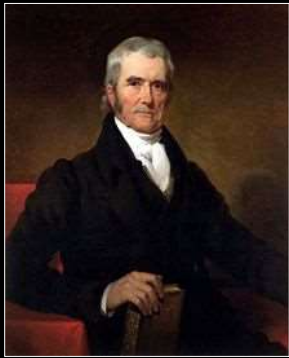
## The Townshend Acts

The first act was the Revenue Act imposing a tax on lead, glass, tea, paper, and other articles of commerce.

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*"the power to tax  
involves the  
power to destroy"*

US Chief Justice John Marshall  
(1819)

10

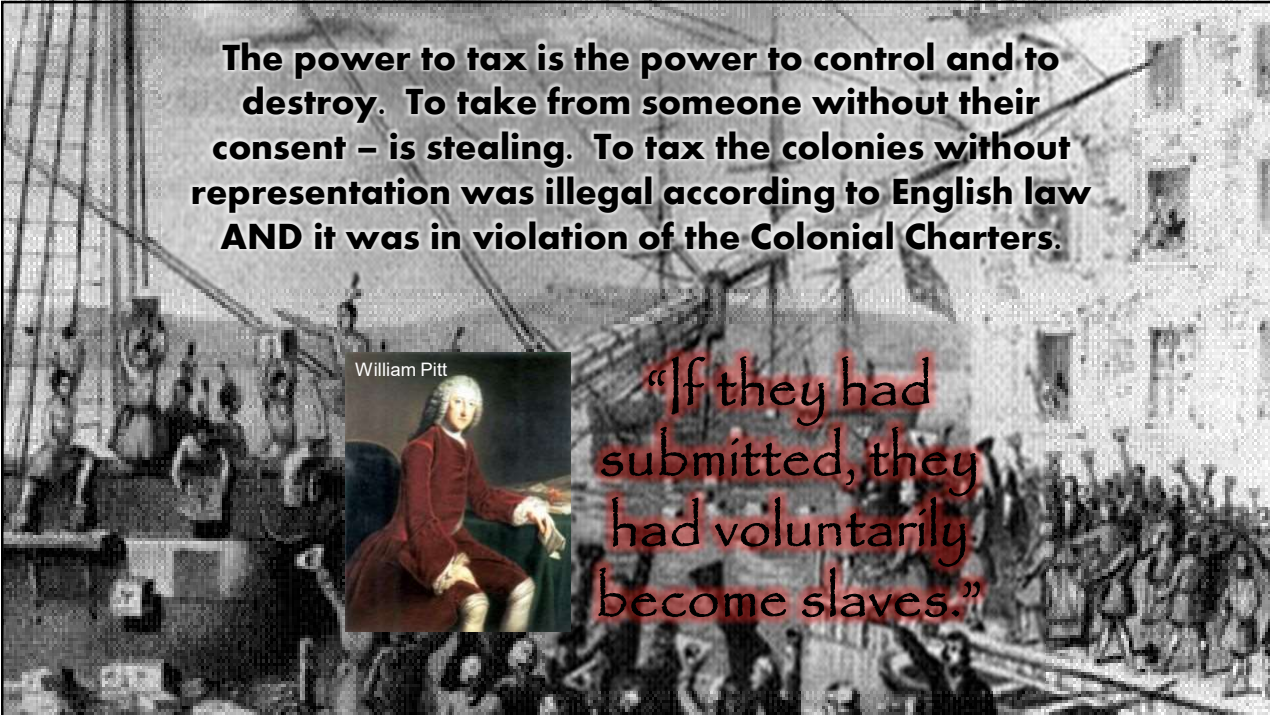


**The power to tax is the power to control and to destroy. To take from someone without their consent – is stealing. To tax the colonies without representation was illegal according to English law AND it was in violation of the Colonial Charters.**




William Pitt

*“If they had submitted, they had voluntarily become slaves.”*



11



**The Stated Reason for  
The Tea Act of 1773**  
(Centennial History of America – 1875, pg. 408)

***“that there should be  
always one tax, at least, to  
keep up the right of  
taxing.”***

- King George III

12



The Colonists refused to buy TEA. In order to sway the colonists, the EAST INDIA Company offered to pay the tax themselves so the Colonists would not have to pay it, but the KING refused to allow it.

King George insisted to:

*“try the question with  
the Americans.”*

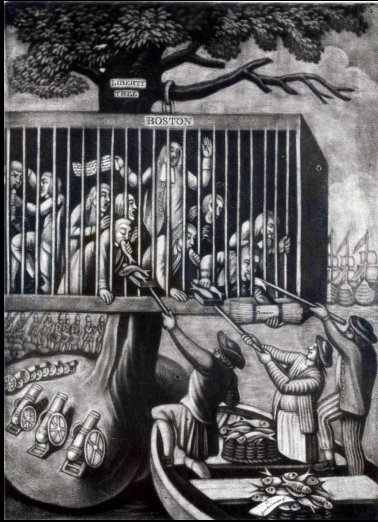
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# The Intolerable Acts



- The Port Act
- The Massachusetts Government Act
- The Administrating Act
- The Quartering Acts
- The Quebec Act

15



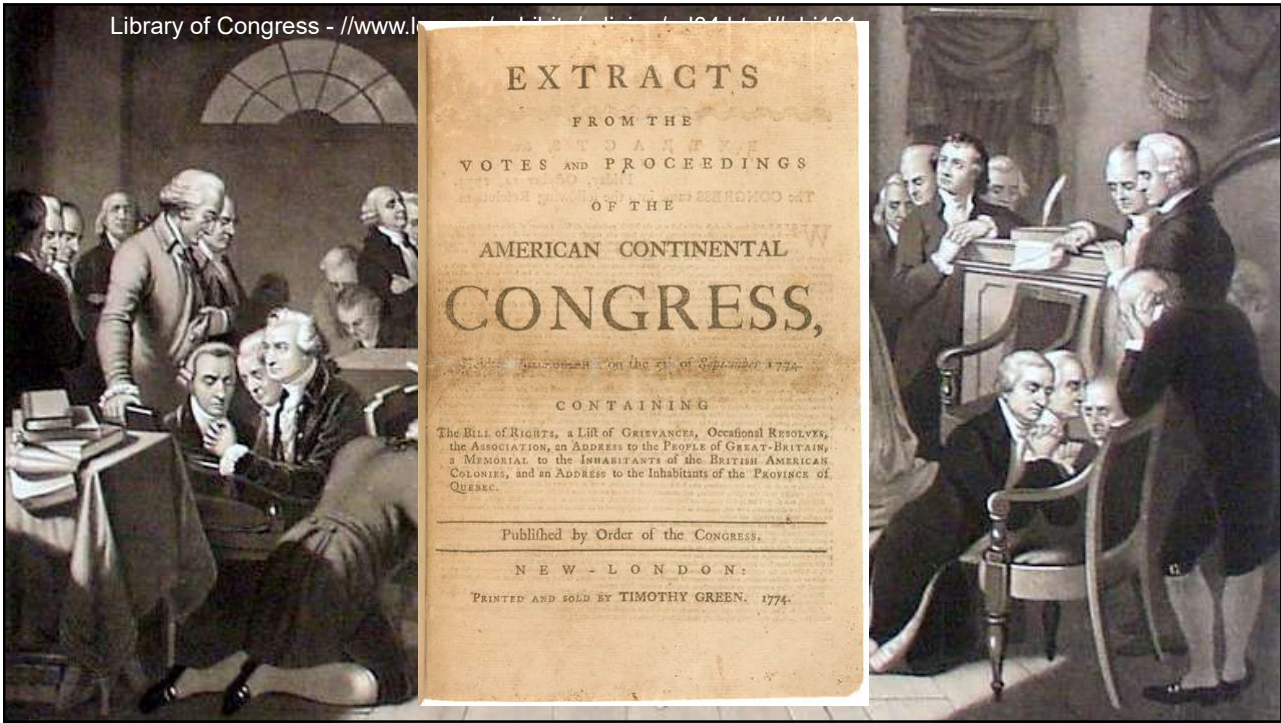
Carpenter’s Hall - Philadelphia

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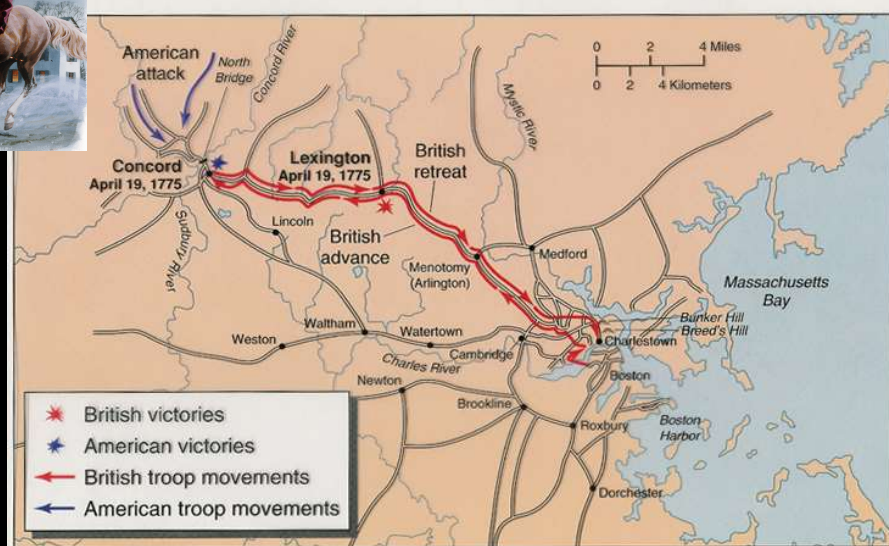
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- The Colonies were now forbidden from fishing off Newfoundland.
- General Gage fortified Boston.
- The Colonists began gathering powder, arms and cannon and were organizing and preparing their militias, if needed.
- In February, 1775, Parliament declared Massachusetts to be officially in rebellion.
- Virginia met in late March, 1775, to consider raising a militia. They could not meet at the state house in Williamsburg, so the Virginia Legislature met at the St. John's Church in Richmond.

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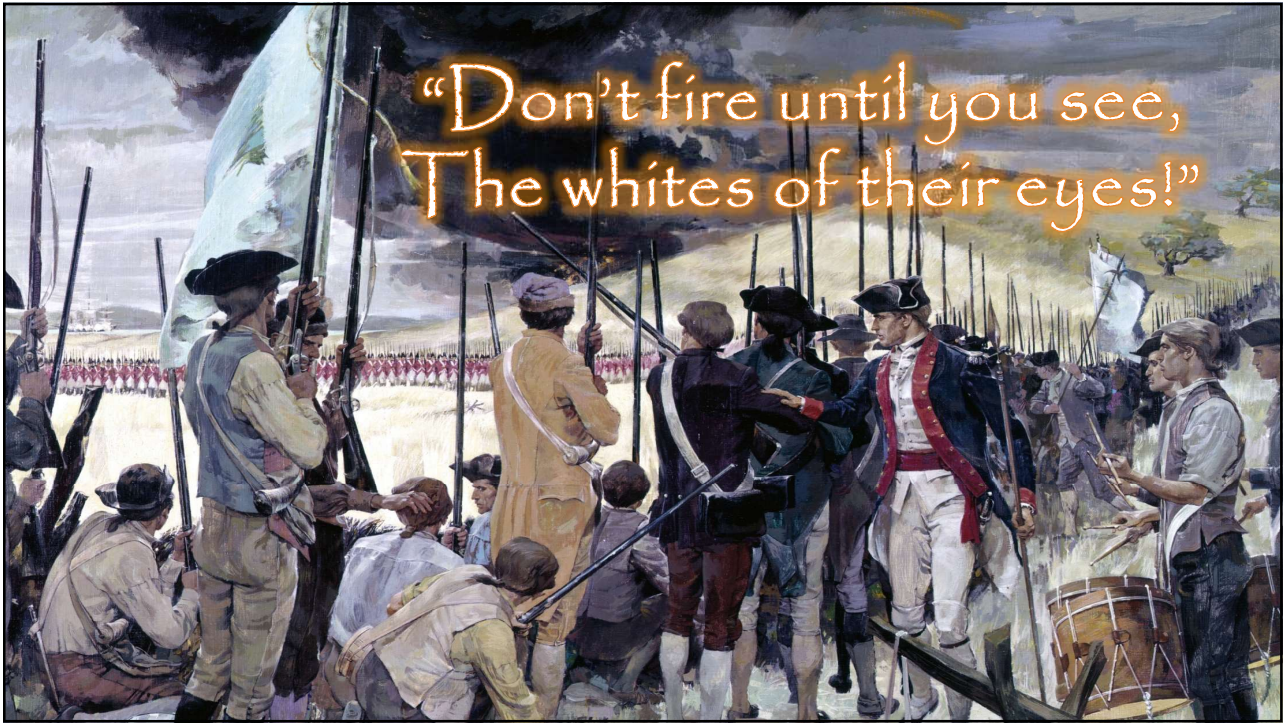


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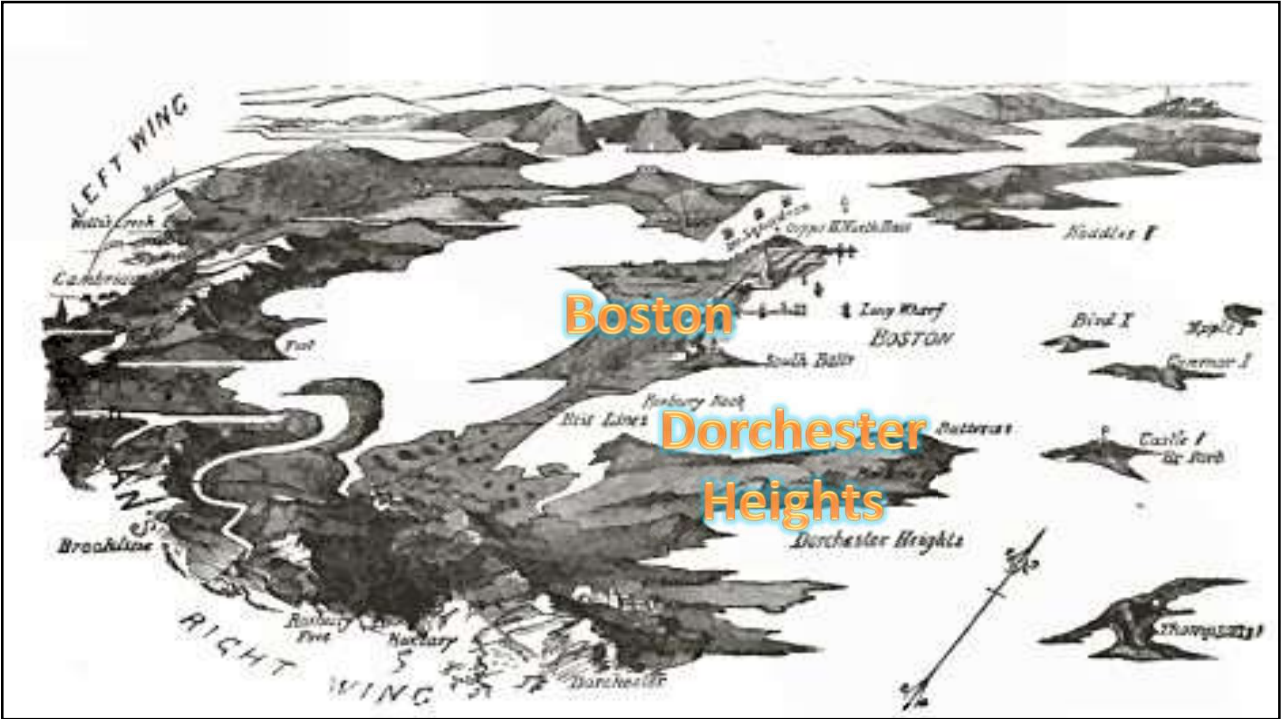


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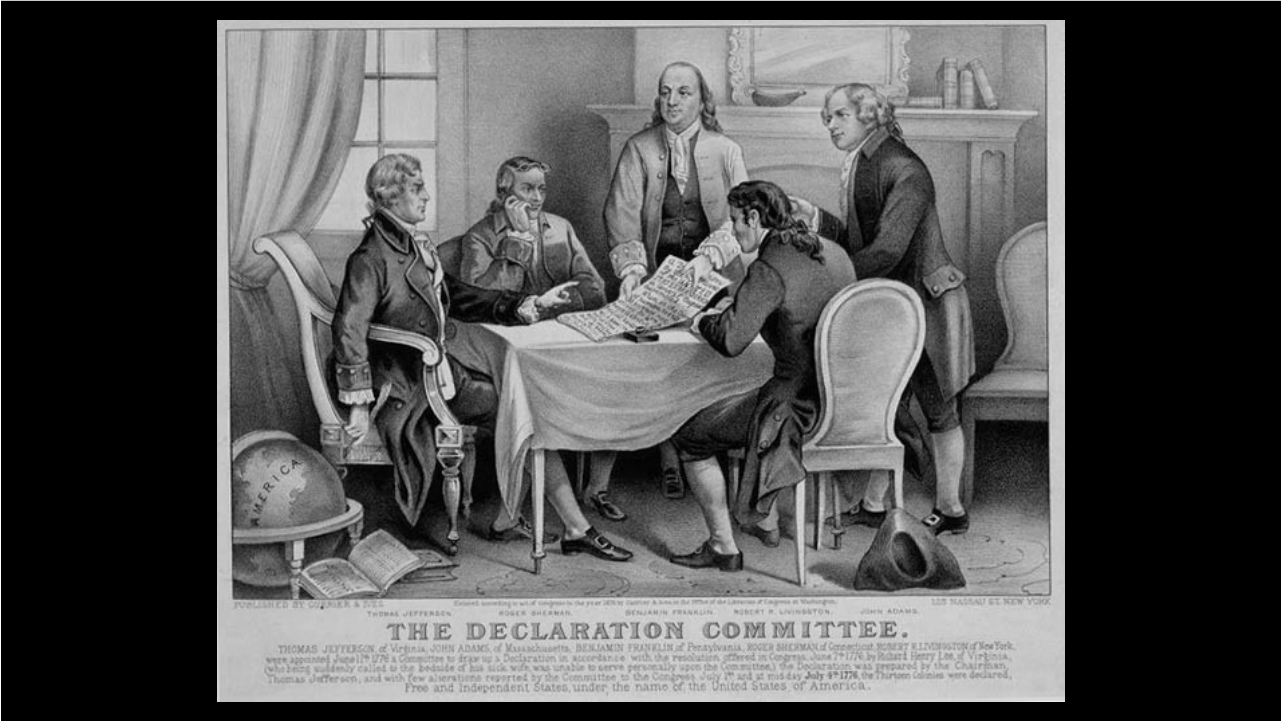


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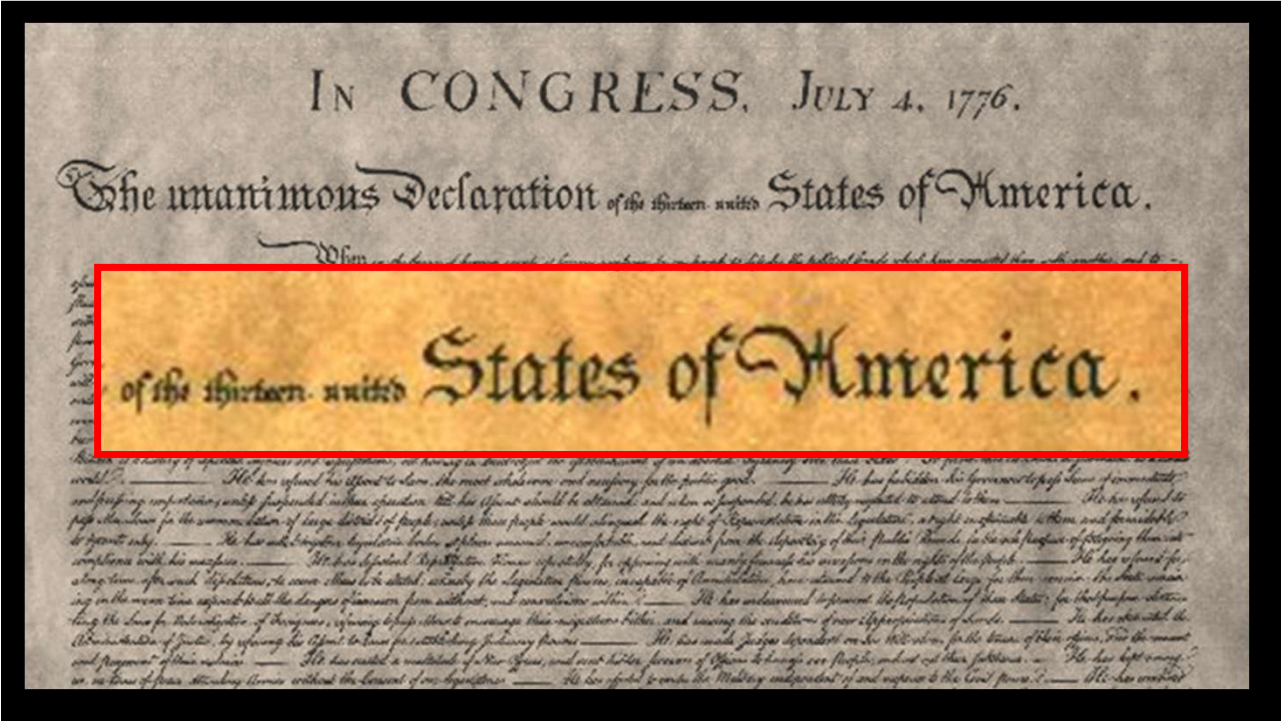




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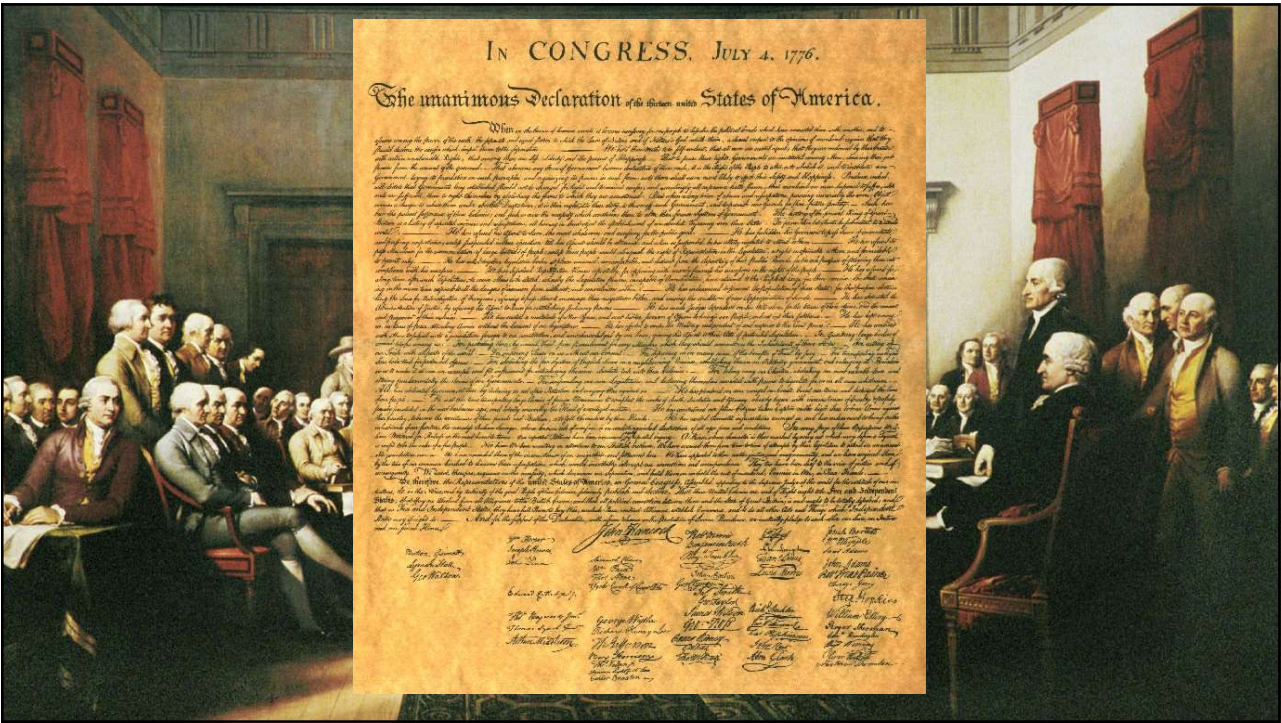


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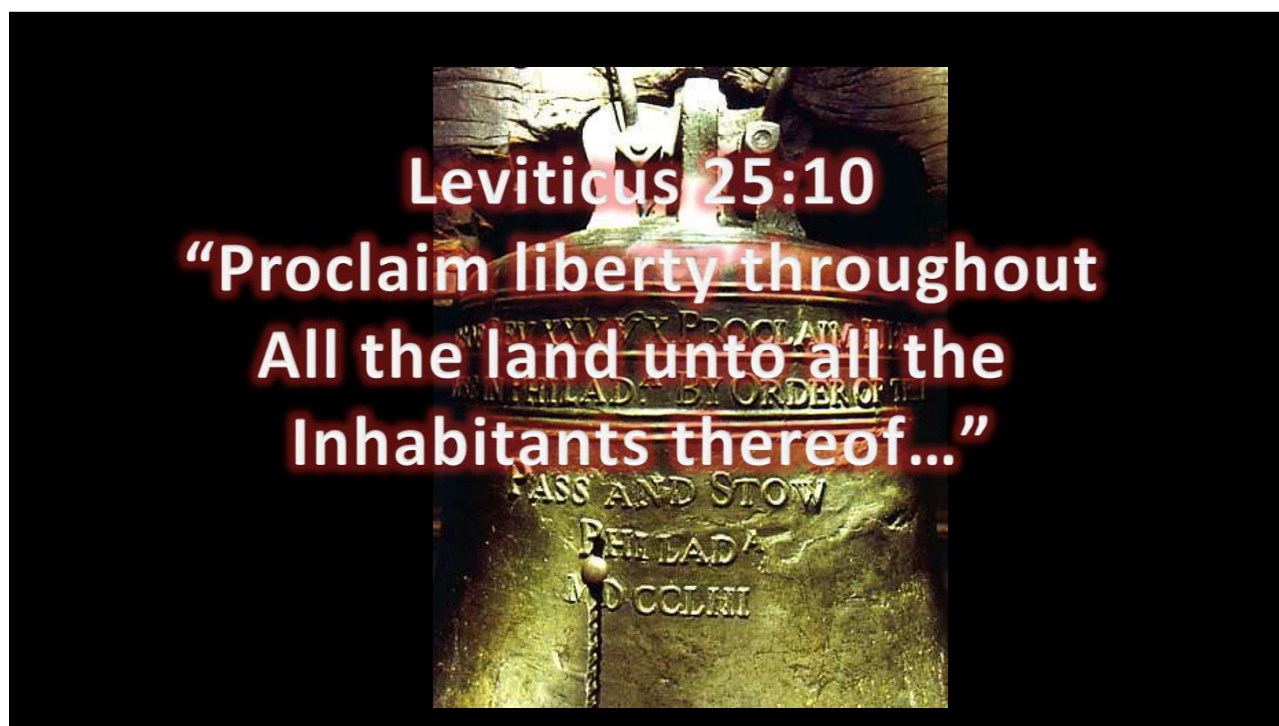


"The Second Day of July 1776 will be the most memorable Epoch, in the History of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more."

33



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When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

36



**We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed;**

37

**that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.**

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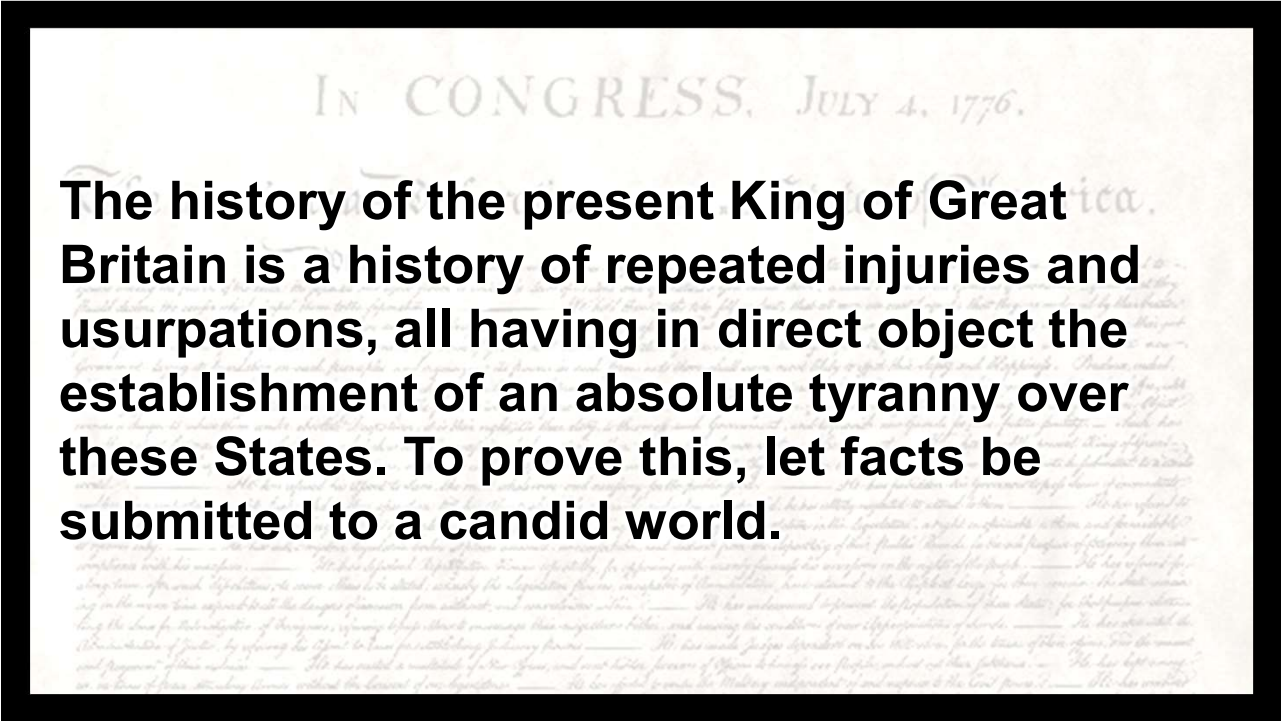
**Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn(sic), that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed.**

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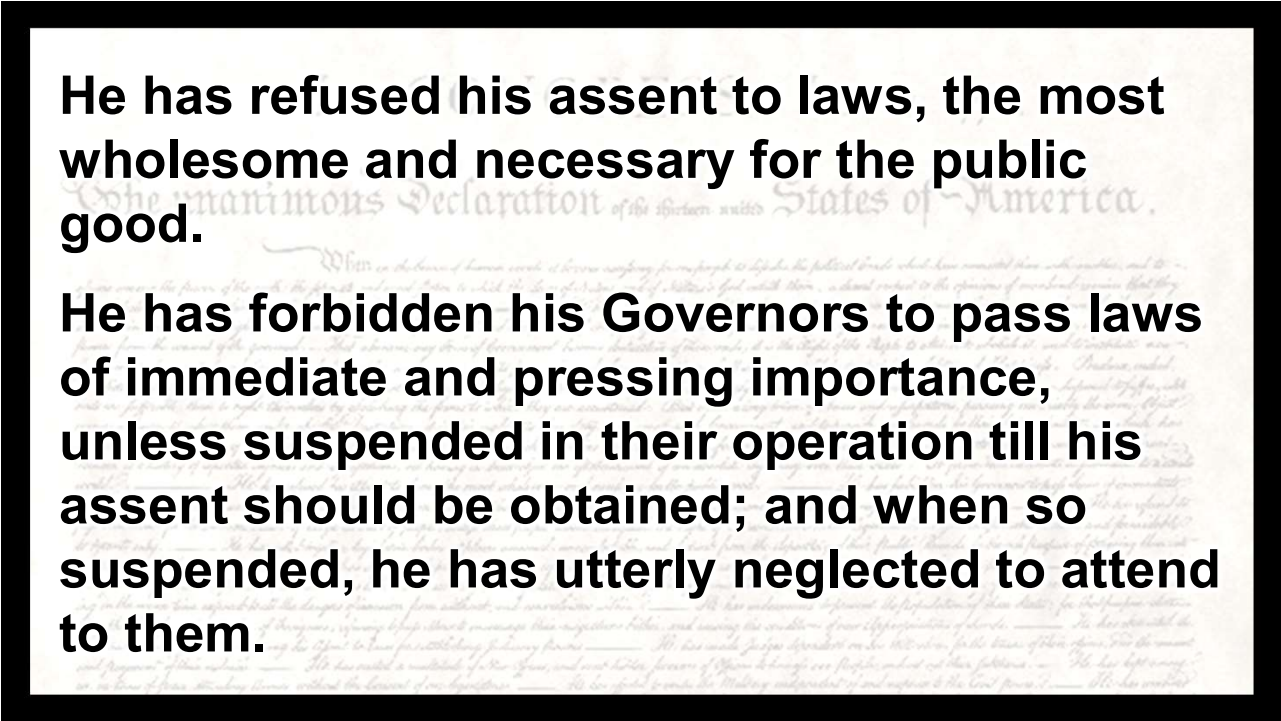
**But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government.**

40





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42

**He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.**

**He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.**

43

**He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.**

**He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.**

44



**He has endeavoured(sic) to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.**

**He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.**

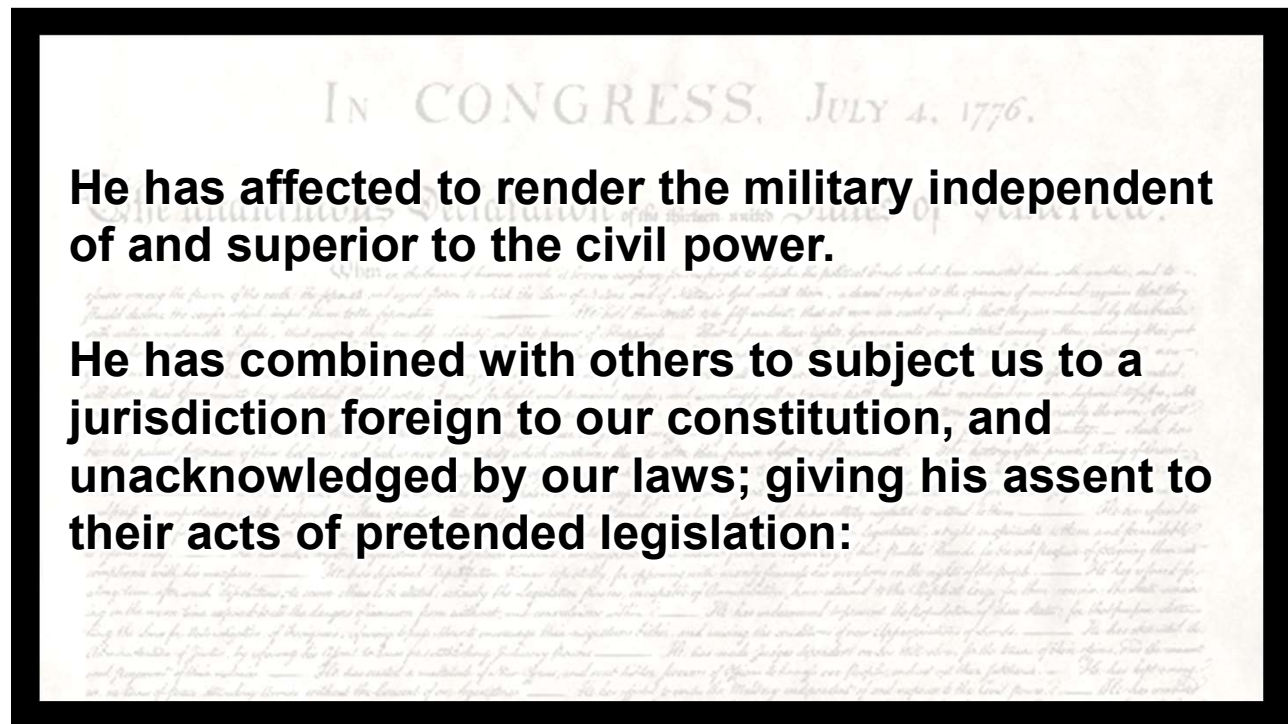
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**He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.**

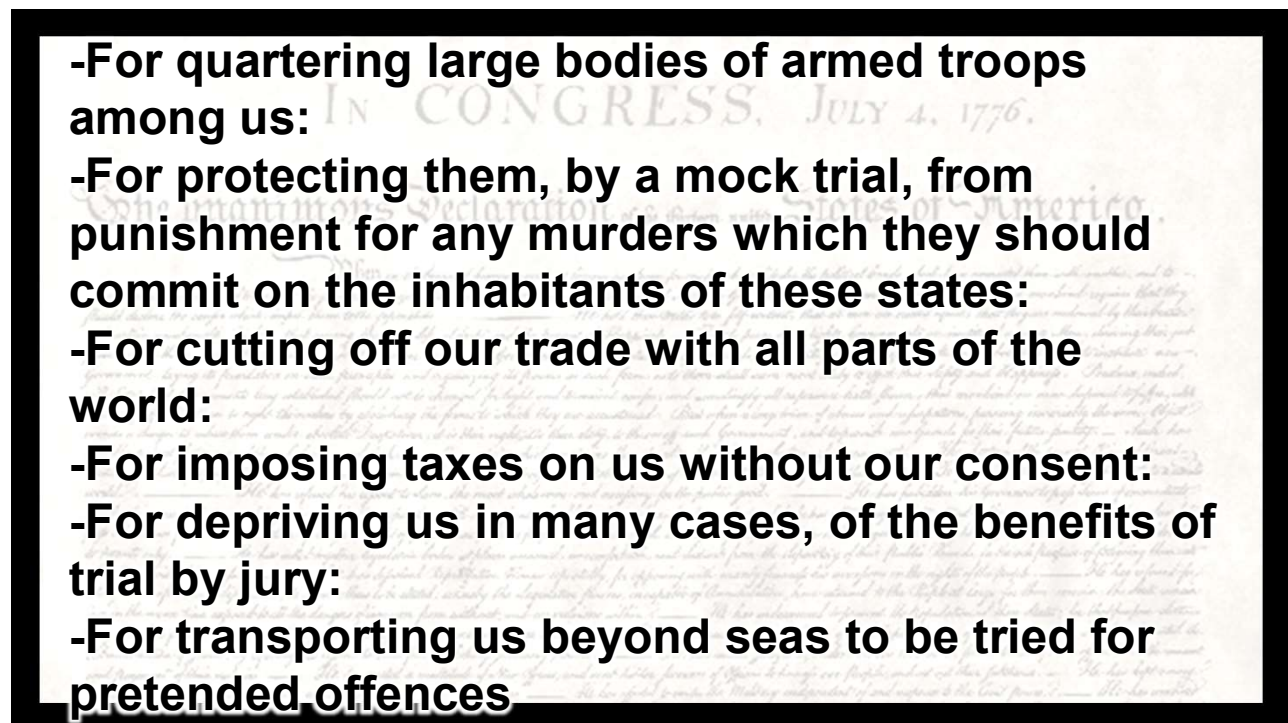
**He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.**

**He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies without the consent of our legislatures.**

46



47



48



**-For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:**

**-For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments:**

**-For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.**

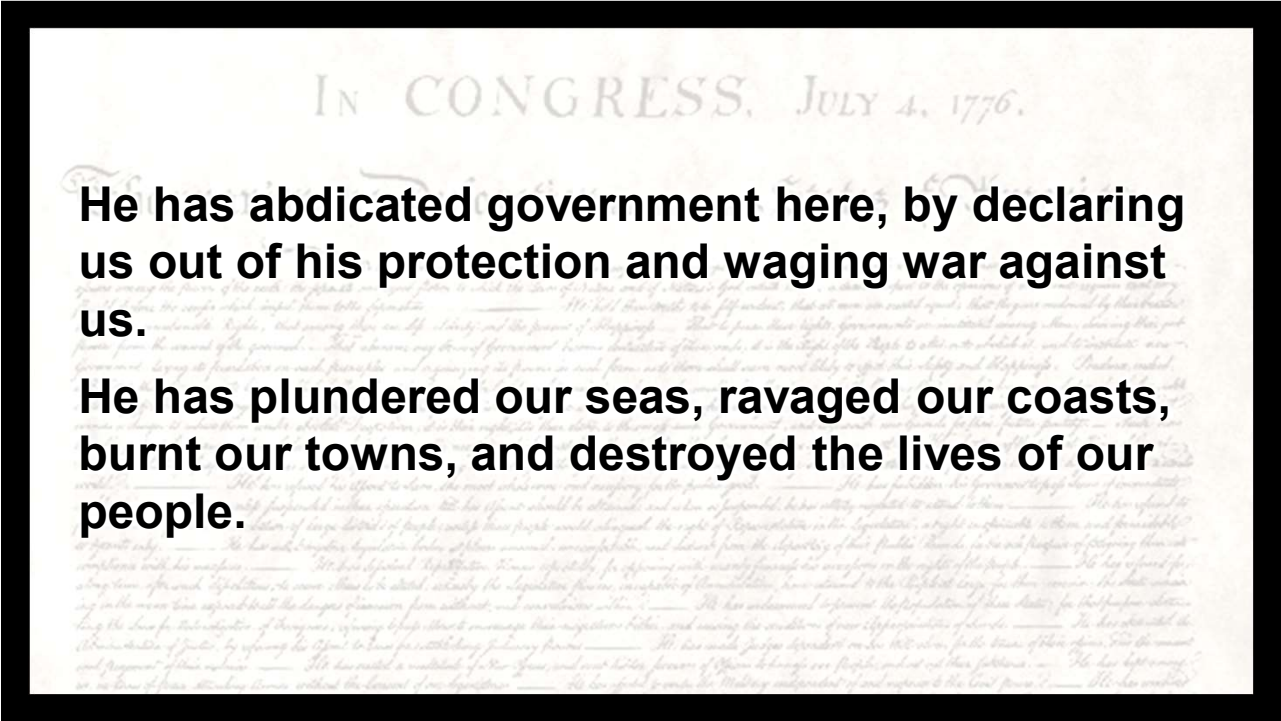
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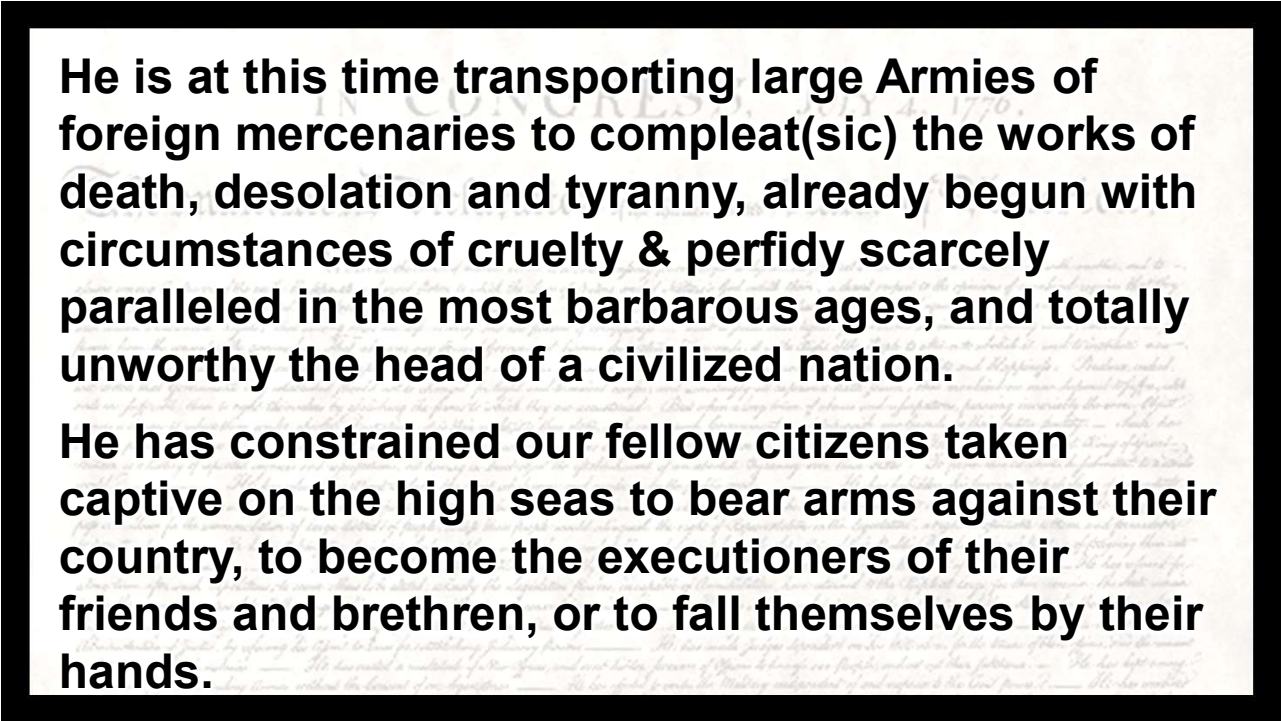
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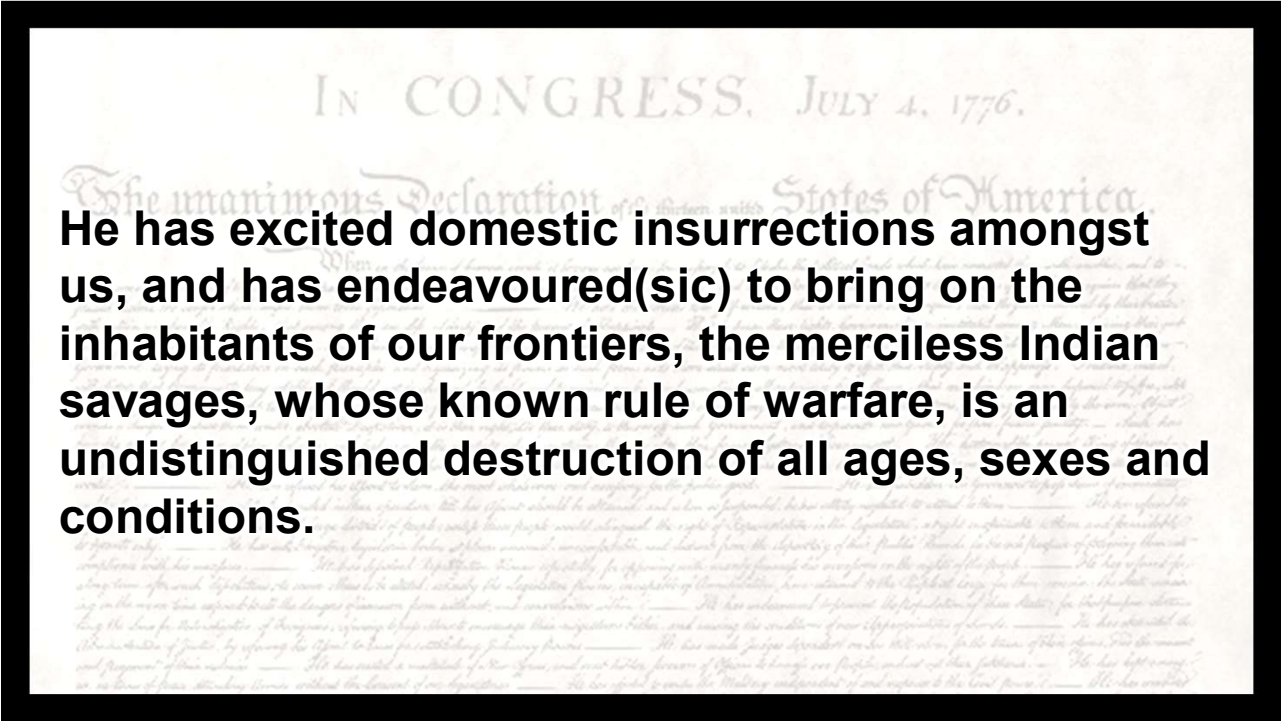


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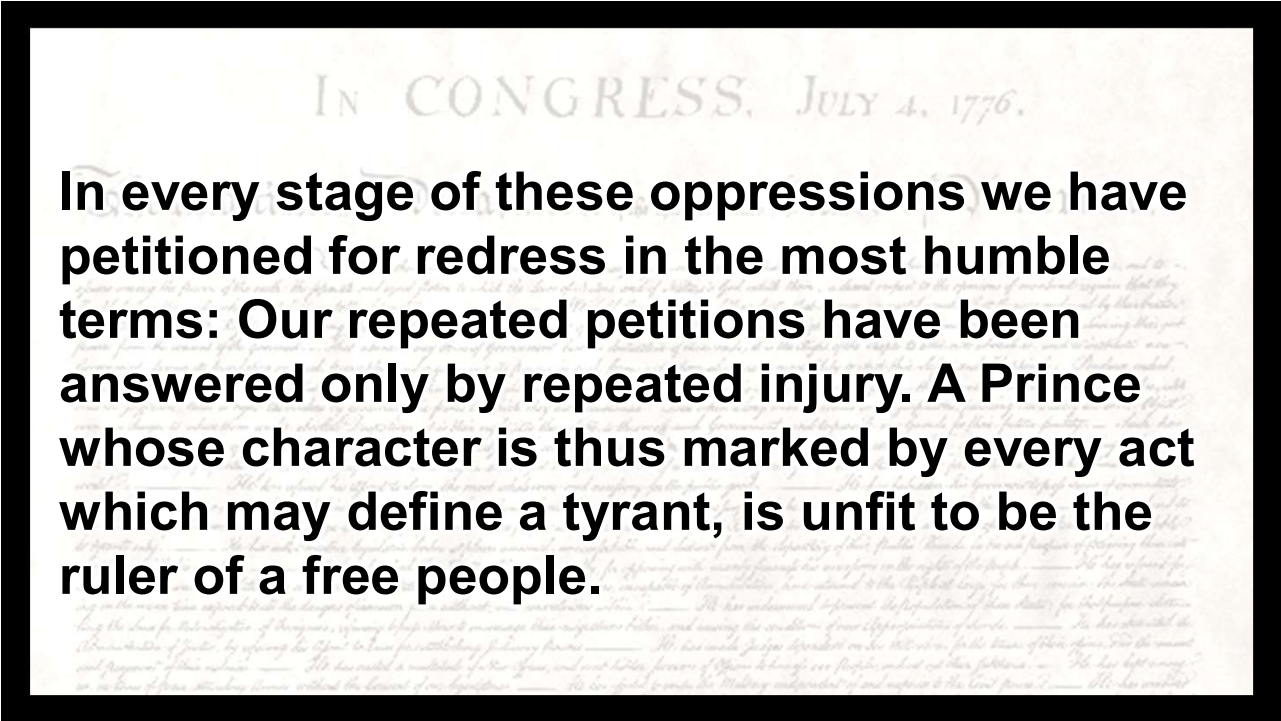


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54

**Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations,**

55

**which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends.**

56



**We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States;**

57

**that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do.**

58

